



# ACBL REGIONAL at SEA

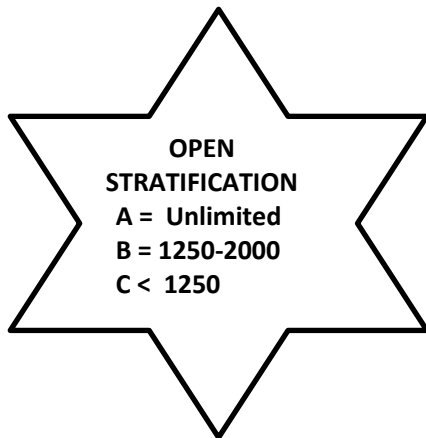
With Michael Berkowitz



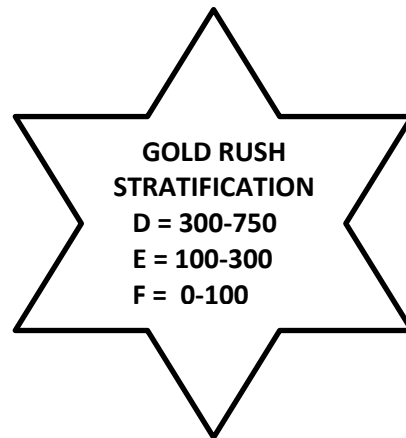
Daily Bulletin

Saturday, October 29 & Sunday, October 30, 2022

Welcome aboard Royal Caribbean's **Symphony of the Seas** 7-night Caribbean cruise. This will be a fun-filled journey of great food, fabulous entertainment, and of course lots of bridge. You'll have your choice of playing in Pairs, Swiss Teams, Knockout Teams, and/or Side Games with many opportunities to win Gold Points. Michael will present lectures most mornings, and hand analyses following the afternoon Open Pairs games. We'll finish with a Cocktail/Awards Party on Friday evening, November 4.



**OPEN STRATIFICATION**  
A = Unlimited  
B = 1250-2000  
C < 1250



**GOLD RUSH STRATIFICATION**  
D = 300-750  
E = 100-300  
F = 0-100



## MEET . . . . ....MICHAEL BERKOWITZ

Michael Berkowitz tells his life story, through bridge, every month in the ACBL Bulletin. His funny, instructive columns show how he has often learned important lessons the hard way. He is passionate about bridge and has worked in the bridge world writing, directing, and teaching.

Michael learned from the very best: his parents, both of whom are world champions. Michael believed that they would wince every time he missed an overtrick (they deny this). As a result, he understands how difficult it can be to get to the next level of bridge play without getting discouraged. His clear instruction allows students to make concrete steps forward without getting lost in pursuit of perfection. In addition to teaching for Bridge with Larry Cohen, Michael is the Program Chair for the ACBL Education Foundation, a non-profit working to promote bridge for all. He lives in Salt Lake City with his wife, Emily, and dog Yeti.



## THINGS TO KNOW ... ... about Stratification

All stratifications are done by masterpoint average (per pair or team). For example, if one player in a partnership has 700 points and the other has 100 points, the points will be averaged out to the 400-point flight:  $(700 + 100 = 800 / 2 = 400)$ .

In the 2-session Pair games there are two different events (masterpoint strata listed above):

- 1) Unlimited (Flights A, B, and C)
- 2) Gold Rush (Flights D, E, and F)

### Today's (Saturday) Schedule

4:00 PM\* .....Registration  
 Conference Center.....Deck 3  
 8:00 PM.....Side Game Series

\*Subject to boat drill



**THINGS TO KNOW ...**  
*... about Gold Rush Pairs*

To play in the GOLD RUSH PAIRS (which awards GOLD points for the top finishers), no player in Flights D, E, or F can have more than 750 masterpoints.

In this event, averaging is applied to determine which Flight you and your partner will qualify for. Regardless, you must both have fewer than 750.



**THINGS TO KNOW ...**  
*... about Gold Points*

You will receive GOLD POINTS....

- 1) for placing Overall in any event;
- 2) for a Section Top in all 2-session Pairs games;
- 3) for a Section top in all Side Games (providing that you play in at least one other session in that particular series);
- 4) Any points not GOLD will be RED.

**TIPS FROM MICHAEL**

Declaring in a suit contract

When you count losers, you look at both hands for honors. Don't count shortness in the hand with fewer trumps unless planning to ruff in the short hand.

For example, AKxx opposite xx might be two losers or no losers. It depends upon whether the xx hand is the hand with long trump.

**Cheryl Angel**

*Is your Alice Travel representative on this cruise*

*She will be on board and will be happy to help with any of your cruise-related questions. She will be available in the morning prior to Michaels lectures as well as before each session of bridge. Cheryl is also the Partnership Chair on this RAS.*



**Masking policies will be consistent with ACBL guidelines and local ordinances, and may vary with date and location.**



**THINGS TO KNOW ...**  
*... about Side Games*

The Side Games are grouped into a Series beginning this evening (Saturday).

To be eligible for Overall awards in the Side Games Series, you must play in at least two sessions in the series. You may play with different partners each time if you wish because you will score as an individual not as a partnership, and your score for that Series will be the total of your own two best games.

The top Overall placers will win GOLD points. OVERALL means only the highest score, not broken down by Flights. NOTE: that if you get a section top in one side game, and you play in at least two sessions, your section top will convert to GOLD.

**Tomorrow's (SUNDAY) Schedule**

- 9:00 AM .....Lecture with Michael
- 10:00 AM .....Bahamas Open and Gold Rush Pairs (Session 1 of 2)
- 2:00 PM .....Bahamas Open and Gold Rush Pairs (Session 2 of 2)
- 4:30 PM ..... Hand Analysis with Michael
- 8:00 PM .....Side Game Series

**Lectures and games will take place in the Conference Center on Deck 3 near forward elevators.**

**Monday's Schedule**

- 9:00 AM .....Lecture with Michael
- 10:00 AM .....Atlantic Open and Gold Rush Pairs (Session 1 of 2)
- 2:00 PM .....Atlantic Open and Gold Rush Pairs (Session 2 of 2)
- 4:30 PM ..... Hand Analysis with Michael
- 8:00 PM .....Side Game Series